



ROMANS

Romans-27—April 27, 2022

GOD AND GOVERNMENT

"The nine most terrifying words in the English language are: I'm from the Government, and I'm here to help. "

~ Ronald Reagan

Scripturally, we see three divinely ordained institutions:

First: The family (Genesis 2)

Second: The government (Genesis 9)

Third: The church (Acts 2).

These instructions are to let us know:

- Believers can live victoriously in a democracy.
- Believers can live victoriously in a constitutional monarchy.
- Believers can live victoriously in even a totalitarian regime.

Know something, no earthly government is any better than the men who comprise it. That is why no government is perfect.

UNDERSTANDING THIS INSTRUCTION:

1. Everyone is **subject** to the governing authorities.

- a. Romans 13:1 *Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.*
- b. This word means to **align** oneself under **authority**.
- c. God **established** the **authority** that governments have.
- d. God sets **boundaries** on the authorities.

UNDERSTANDING THIS INSTRUCTION:

- 2. What **judgment** comes for those who **resists** the ordinance of God.
 - a. Romans 13:2 *Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.*
 - b. Daniel 2:19-21 *During the night the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision. Then Daniel praised the God of heaven 20 and said: "Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his. 21 He changes times and seasons; he deposes kings and raises up others. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning.*

Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same. ~ Ronald Reagan

UNDERSTANDING THIS INSTRUCTION:

- 3. It comes down to one main thing, **do good**.
 - a. Romans 13:3 *For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same.*

UNDERSTANDING THIS INSTRUCTION:

- 4. God has put **accountability** in **place** over all.
 - a. Romans 13:4 *For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.*
 - b. Authority is to control **lawlessness**.

UNDERSTANDING THIS INSTRUCTION:

- 5. **Subjection** is tied to our **conscience**.
 - a. Romans 13:5-6 *Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. 6 This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing.*

- b. Being held **accountable**—subject—to the **right things** is a matter of conscience.

UNDERSTANDING THIS INSTRUCTION:

- 6. There is a **balance** to our **subjection**.
 - a. Romans 13:7 *Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.*
 - b. Matthew 22:15-22 *Then the Pharisees went and plotted how they might entangle Him in His talk. 16 And they sent to Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men. 17 Tell us, therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" 18 But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, "Why do you test Me, you hypocrites? 19 Show Me the tax money." So they brought Him a denarius. 20 And He said to them, "Whose image and inscription is this?" 21 They said to Him, "Caesar's." And He said to them, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." 22 When they had heard these words, they marveled, and left Him and went their way.*
 - c. Acts 5:26-29 *Then the captain went with the officers and brought them without violence, for they feared the people, lest they should be stoned. 27 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest asked them, 28 saying, "Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us!" 29 But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men.*
 - d. Being **subjected** has its **limits**.
 - e. Philippians 3:20 *For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,*

If we ever forget that we are One Nation Under God, then we will be a nation gone under.

~ Ronald Reagan